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VN-0121US

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Takayuki SATO

Appln. No. 09/681,725

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: May 29, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

For: NETWORK MANAGEMENT APPARATUS, NETWORK COMMUNICATION APPARATUS, NETWORK COMMUNICATION PROGRAM, NETWORK COMMUNICATION METHOD AND COMPUTER NETWORK SYSTEM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir,

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under § 1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) is required.

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Application No. 09/681,725



In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanation:

**Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2000-165407 is disclosed in the specification of the above-identified application.**

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karan Singh".

Karan Singh

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**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.